# PUDUKKOTTAI STATE

# WAR INFORMATION BUREAU

BULLETIN] APRIL 4, 1942 [No. 89

## His Majesty the King Emperor's Message.

### MUCH NEARER THE TOP.

"There are moments, no doubt, when some of us may not feel as fresh as we were two and a half years ago when we started at the bottom of the hill; but do not forget that we are also much nearer the top, and as we have climbed, the country's muscles have been braced, its fibres toughened and its heartbeats are stronger and steadier. As the full abomination of the evil spirit against which we are fighting under every sky and climate has become understood by all, our will to endure has hardened.

**We know that we have undertaken a veritable crusade against the forces of darkness. Were they to prevail, the lights of freedom, tolerance and kindliness would be blotted out for long generations. There can be no peace until the wicked forces that have wrecked the world are cast down and utterly destroyed.**

*United in close comradeship with our brothers and sisters overseas, and with our mighty and gallant Allies, we shall go forward together, unwearied, till our task is accomplished.*

In our prayers let us thank the Almighty God for bringing us thus far in safety through so many dangers, and let us ask Him to give us that spiritual strength which great causes deserve and with which they conquer and survive. Strong in our faith, resolved to shrink from no effort, we shall march on to the triumph of Right, which alone will open to all the promise of a broader and better age."

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**LECTURE LXXXIX.**

## SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS ON THE WAR.

(*From a B. B. C. talk*).

At this grave moment in the fortunes of the British Commonwealth of Nations, it is well for us to take stock of our position. In doing so, do not let us allow our view to be obscured by the dark clouds that at present engulf us, dimming the more distant but none the less certain hopes of the future. Nevertheless, the clouds are there and deep and brooding—a signal and a warning that we must strain our every effort if we are to fight through to victory and freedom.

At the beginning of last December we were already heavily engaged with the Germans and their satellite nations, we were already extended, watching and fighting over many quarters of the globe. The forces of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and India, as well as our British soldiers had already been sent from their own countries far overseas to battle in Europe, in North Africa and in the Near and Middle East.

The British Fleet and Air Force, assisted by complements from the great Dominions, were engaged throughout the oceans protecting the vital traffic passing to and fro. The struggle in the Atlantic, in the North Sea and in the Mediterranean was keeping our Navy fully occupied.

### NOT FIGHTING ALONE.

We had little to spare and we were doing our utmost to help Soviet Russia with materials of all kinds. Suddenly, as is the way with ruthless aggressors, the Japanese hurled themselves into the war, choosing as they reckoned, their opportunity to invade the Pacific with their fleet and with their armies while we were fully occupied elsewhere.

This sudden onrush of fresh troops, and a new and powerful navy and air force, employing *blitz* tactics has already carried them far and we have, for the time being, lost many important territories and strongholds in the East. The tide has not yet reached its highest level and yet more areas will be inundated before it starts to recede.

**Were that the whole story, it would perhaps appear disheartening, but it is not. We have mighty Allies on our side. We do not fight alone. Not least, the United States of America, brought to our side as a fighting Ally by the treacherous attack of the Japanese. China, too, is with us, that new China which has for nearly five long years resisted the aggression of Japan and resisted it with a superb courage and determination, though fighting alone.**

In Europe, the Soviet Union is beating back the armies of the Germans and their forced Allies, which Hitler once claimed to be invincible. Great Britain and the Dominions and Colonies and India, are alive as never before to the danger which confronts them ; not cowed or fearful of the future, but strong, stubborn and resistant in the knowledge of the justice and rightness of the values for which they fight.

## OBJECTIVE AHEAD.

**This mighty alliance of peoples, that is to-day battling with the forces of evil, from one end of the world to the other, cannot be defeated unless they allow faint-heartedness and apathy to sap their strength. We know what hard and difficult times lie ahead of us. Through these we must pass, but that very knowledge will steel our hearts and knit our energies, for we know too that from the trials and tragedies of war will be born the possibility of that new and happier civilisation that we shall found upon our victory.**

No new Nazi order, no so called prosperity sphere, built up on the suffering and slavery of the peoples of the world by some dominant races which seek to proclaim their superiority by their inhuman and brutal acts of cruelty. It is not for that that we and more than half the population of the world are to-day fighting. No, we fight and will fight on, through all the setbacks, all the defeats and disappointments, to gain that free and equal world in which alone we, as free peoples, can live lives that are worthwhile.

## WAR EFFORT OF DOMINIONS.

At one period of the war after the collapse of France when the British Commonwealth of nations faced the Germans alone, we in this country were threatened with the imminent and urgent danger of invasion. We can feel with a searching realism the anxieties that must to-day beset those in the Dominions and especially our comrades in Australia and New Zealand, where a like danger now threatens them so closely.

We realise how vital is the defence of Australia and New Zealand to the future defeat of our Japanese enemies. We recollect with pride and gratitude the help that Australians and New Zealanders have given in other parts of the field of war and are still giving. We praise wholeheartedly the total effort

that they are now summoning for the protection of their homeland and we welcome the knowledge that they have, as we have, a strong and ever stronger Ally in America, who can and will come to their help.

## DECIDING FACTOR.

**Modern war, on the gigantic and far-flung scale upon which it is now being waged, is not finally won or lost as the result of territorial gains here or there. It is eventually won by the resources in manpower and in materials that can be mobilised behind one side or the other.**

It is not merely the number of heads that is decisive, but the number of man-hours that are actually worked and the amount of power in the form of human endeavour that is expended by one side or the other. That is why we must judge the scale of our own efforts against that of the enemies we are fighting and compare it with that of our Allies.

Time, too, plays its part, for an effort made too late, may lose its value or at least a great part of its effectiveness, but given a full mobilisation of effort and its timely application victory will go to the best equipped group of nations and to those who can count upon the greater man power in industry and in the armed forces.

## MOST POWERFUL GROUP.

America, the Soviet union and China, with Great Britain and the Dominions, are the most powerful group of nations in the world. Each set back and each delay may perhaps put off the victory but in the long run, if our effort is made total and immediate, it will be crowned with victory. Failure can only come from neglected effort, or form leaving opportunities until too late.

Those first and sudden and fierce attacks by Japan have carried their armies far into our territory, but their resources cannot be compared to those of the Allies. However hard and tragic our lot may be for the moment, the future need not be in doubt. The weight of men and materials is on our side and if only we will make the fullest use of them the end is sure. It is this certain knowledge that will buoy us up in the hard months that lie ahead and will drive each one of us on to give of our best in every farm and factory and mine throughout the length and breadth of the British Commonwealth of nations and of American too.

## SOVIET RESISTANCE.

Already we see the great results that have come from the concentrated and welltimed effort by the whole people of the Soviet union. They have fought and worked as never before in their history, they have suffered dangers and deprivations gladly for their country, and its honour and safety. They

have struck at nothing to make their individual contribution 100 per cent in every thing. They have set a high example for their Allies, an example not only of courage and self sacrificing labour but of the success which follows upon so total a devotion to their cause.

Let us follow that example, through total effort to victory. They, too, had their reverses to suffer, they had great areas of their country overrun by a brutal and ruthless foe. But they never lost heart. They fought the harder the more difficult and critical their situation became, and then the tide turned and their sacrifices won their reward.

## TO REBUILD A NEW WORLD.

The fight on the Russian front is by no means over. They still have long months of subborn and desperate fighting before them, but in all their trials they will be borne up by the knowledge, which their own valour has taught them, that they can and will defeat their enemy who is our enemy too. **The myth of Hitler's invincibility was smashed by Timoshenko at Rostov and by the gallant troops on the Moscow front.**

We are now all Allies together to drive aggression and Fascism from the world. After victory let us remain in the same gallant company and rebuild this stricken world upon foundations of justice and equity that will secure for us, for them and for all the peoples of the world, a happier, saner and more peaceful future.

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# WEEKLY WAR SUMMARY.

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## 28—3—42 to 3—4—42.

**Burma**—After a heroic resistance lasting five days which has earned it the name of 'Second VERDUN', the Chinese have evacuated TOUNGOO and taken up a position, some 20 miles to the north at YEDASHE. TOUNGOO being the eastern anchor of the Allied line across Central BURMA proved a point of violent attack, and was defended with great valour, the Chinese digging themselves in and contesting every inch of ground. There is evidence to show that in his attack the enemy used poison gas.

The Chinese have recaptured the KYUNGON aerodrome 20 miles north of TOUNGOO.

Following on the withdrawal of the Imperial forces on the Irrawaddi front in order to even up the line with that of the Chinese at TOUNGOO the Japanese have occupied SHWEDAUNG and PROME.

In the SHAN STATES Chinese troops have won a decided victory over a mixed Jap-Thai force which attempted to cross the border.

**Australia**—The present lull in Japanese air activity following on the retreat of the Japanese forces from MARKHAM Valley shows that the enemy has met with 'his first major *impasse* in the S. W. Pacific'. Allied attacks on SALAMUA, LAE RABAUL and KOEPANG have frustrated all enemy plans of a rapid advance. NEW GUINEA has proved that aggression on the Allied part is the best form of defence, and that JAPAN's heal of Achilles lies in her attenuated supply lines.

Allied aircraft attacking KOEPANG on the March 27, made a direct hit on a 7,000 ton enemy vessel.

The Japanese raided MORESBY for the 20th time. General Sir Thomas Blamey, Commander-in-Chief, Australian Forces in the MIDDLE EAST has returned to AUSTRALIA to become Commander-in-Chief of the Allied Forces in AUSTRALIA under the general command of General MacArther; Australian Forces still remaining in the MIDDLE EAST having been placed under Major General Sir Leslia Morshead—the defender of TOBRUK.

**Philippines**—The enemy has resumed his violent attack on CORREGIDOR, BATAAN.

**China**—The Japanese are attempting to disrupt communications across the Yellow River between SHENSI and SHANSI.

The concentration of Jap troops in Western SHANSI is believed to foreshadow a Japanese campaign against RUSSIA.

**Russia**—Soviet forces have launched a large scale attack on the MURMANSK front where the Germans are attempting to cut off the Arctic supply lines. Stalin has forestalled them by carrying out several landings on the Arctic coast behind the German lines. Soviet warships are blasting the German coastal batteries, while the Red planes pound the positions from the air.

With the rapid improvement of the weather, the fighting has assumed an intensive form along the whole Russian front. German

counter-attacks on the central front to succour the 16th Army have been repulsed. Russian forces have encircled KHARKOV in three directions. KHARKOV may be the starting point of the German spring offensive.

Field Marshal Von Brauchitsch is rumoured to be in GREECE in charge of preparations for the spring attack. German parachutists are reported to be concentrated in RHODES. In GREECE, SICILY and the DODECANESE large numbers of barges, destroyers and ships have been assembled. Bulgarian divisions are said to be moving southwards.

**Libya.**—Imperial patrols were active, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy at HALEGHEL ELEBA and RASEL ELEBA The R. A. F. raided MARTUBA and the enemy planes TOBRUK and MALTA.

Wonderful performances of desert warfare are reported of a long range 'Desert Group'–a self-contained motorised British patrol which has been operating since December behind the enemy lines. Wartime experience has inured them to the hardships of the desert where they move rapidly and strike at the enemy unexpectedly.

**St. Nazaire.**—On the morning of March 28, the Royal Navy, Army and Air Force carried out in combination a successful operation on the large dock at ST. NAZAIRE on the LOIRE on the French Atlantic, used by the Germans as a U-boat base. The gates of the dock were blown up and gutted by driving an old American destroyer, the Campbell Town, against the harbour and dynamiting her at the entrance. At the same time special service troops landed on the coast and carried out demolitions, while British bombers flew overhead, inflicting heavy damage.

German propaganda first magnified the incident in order to create the impression that it was a large scale British landing on a 'Second Front', which the Germans had prevented. But within two days Dr. Goebbels changed his attttude stating that the whole thing was on such a small scale that it did not deserve mention and that it was less than a speck of dust, compared with what was happening on the Russian Front every day'.

**A Pacific War Council** has been set up at WASHINGTON, composed of representatives from AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, the NETHERLANDS, CANADA, CHINA, GREAT BRITAIN and the UNITED STATES. The New Council, a purely consultative body on matters of policy relating to the war effort will be in intimate contact with a similar body in LONDON. The first meeting was held on April 1.

# ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES.

| Date. Targets. | Damage caused by air bombardment. | Aircraft losses for Allies. | Aircraft losses for Enemies. |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **23—3—42 (Monday).** | | | |
| **GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE.** **(By British planes).** | | | |
| **DAY:—** | | | |
| **Offensive sweeps** over the ENGLISH CHANNEL. | | | |
| **LIBYA. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **Military objectives** at BENGHAZI. | | | |
| **Enemy positions in** the MARTUBA TMIMI area. | | | |
| **GREECE. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **SALAMIS** and **PIRAEUS.** | | | |
| **CRETE. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **HERAKLION** and **TYMPAKI.** | | No loss. | 2 fighters. & 3 bombers. |
| **RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).** | | | |
| **Air combats and aircraft on the ground** along the entire front. | | 15 planes. | 37 planes. |
| **FAR EAST—THAILAND. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **Two air-fields** in THAILAND. | | | |
| **NEW GUINEA (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **LAE.** | | | |
| **BURMA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **Enemy aerodromes** in Southern BURMA. | | | |
| **24—3—42 (Tuesday).** | | | |
| **GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **NIGHT:—** | | | |
| **Military objectives** in the RUHR (in GERMANY). | | | |
| **LIBYA. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **Offensive sweeps** over the forward areas of CYRENAICA. | | | |
| **RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).** | | | |
| **Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes** along the whole front. | | 9 planes. | 27 planes. |
| **FAR EAST—THAILAND. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **The aerodrome** at CHIENG-MAI. | | | |
| **BURMA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **Enemy lines of communication** behind the front line. | | | |
| **NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **RABAUL.** | | | |
| **25—3—42 (Wednesday).** | | | |
| **GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **DAY:—** | | | |
| **Shipyards** at LE TRAIT on the SEINE. **Offensive sweeps** over PAS DE CALAIS area of Northern FRANCE. | | 1 fighter. | 2 fighters. |
| **NIGHT:—** | | | |
| **Industrial areas** in the RUHR. **The docks** at ST. NAZAIRE. **Laying mines** in enemy waters. | | 11 bombers. | |
| **LIBYA. (By British planes).** | | | |
| **Aerodromes** at MARTUBA. | | | |
| **BENGHAZI.** | | | |
| **Offensive sweeps** over the forward areas of CYREANICA. | | | |
| **RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).** | | | |
| **Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes** along the whole battle-field. | | 6 planes. | 11 planes. |
| **FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **Jap forces** outside TOUNGOO. | | | |
| **NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **LAE.** | | | |
| **TIMOR (Portuguese). (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| **Reconnaissance** over KOEPANG. | | | |

**26—3—42 (Thursday).**

**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**

**DAY:—**

The docks and the enemy ships in the harbour at LE HAVRE. — 2 fighters & 1 bomber.

**NIGHT:—**

Industrial and military objectives in the RUHR.
An enemy aerodrome in HOLLAND.
An oil refinery near GHENT.
The docks at LE HAVRE.
An enemy convoy off the FRISIAN Islands. — 12 bombers — 8 fighters.

**LIBYA. (By British planes).**

Offensive sweeps over the forward areas in CYRENAICA.

The harbour and ships at BENGHAZI.

**RUSSIA (By Russian planes).**

Air combats and grounded aircraft along the entire front. — 9 planes. — 15 planes.

**FAR EAST—TIMOR (Portuguese). (By American and British planes).**

The aerodrome at KOEPUNG.

**NEW BRITAIN. (By American and British planes).**

RABAUL.

**27—3—42 (Friday).**

**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**

**DAY:—**

Objectives at OSTEND. — 1 fighter. — 1 fighter

**NIGHT:—**

Aerodromes in the occupied Low COUNTRIES.
Laying mines in enemy waters. — 4 planes.

**LIBYA. (By British planes).**

The harbour and nearby camps at BENGHAZI.
Landing grounds at DERNA.
The aerodrome at MARTUBA.

**RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).**

Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.

**FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).**

Reconnaissance over enemy occupied places in the Island.

**28—3—42 (Saturday).**

**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**

**DAY:—**

Offensive sweeps over the ENGLISH CHANNEL and Northern FRANCE. — 5 fighters. — 13 fighters.

**NIGHT:—**

The western BALTIC port of LUBECK. — Big fires started.
Enemy aerodromes and other objectives in occupied territory. — 12 bombers.

**LIBYA. (By British planes).**

Offensive sweeps over the forward areas of CYRENAICA.

**RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).**

Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front.

**FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).**

Jap positions and aerodromes in Southern BURMA.

**NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).**

Reconnaissance over Jap occupied territory.

**29—3—42 (Sunday).**

**GERMANY and GERMAN-occupied EUROPE. (By British planes).**

**DAY:—**

Patrol over the ENGLISH CHANNEL.

**NIGHT:—**

Enemy shipping off the NORWEGIAN coast.
Laying mines in enemy waters.

## ALLIED Air Raids over ENEMY and ENEMY-occupied COUNTRIES—*cont.*

| Date. | Targets. | Damage caused by air bombardment. | Aircraft losses for Allies. | Aircraft losses for Enemies. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 29—3—42 (Sunday)—cont. | | | | |
| | **LIBYA. (By British planes).** | | | |
| | Landing grounds and camps at DERNA. | | | |
| | Aerodromes and aircraft at TMIMI and MARTUBA. | | | |
| | BENGHAZI. | | | |
| | **RUSSIA. (By Russian planes).** | | | |
| | Air combats and aircraft on the aerodromes along the whole front. | | 12 planes. | 20 planes. |
| | **FAR EAST—BURMA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| | An aerodrome near the THAILAND-BURMA border. | | | |
| | **NEW GUINEA. (By American and British planes).** | | | |
| | Reconnaissance over the coastal areas. | | | |
| | **TIMOR (Portuguese). (By American British planes).** | | | |
| | KOEPANG. | | | |

## ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories.

| Date. | Targets. | Damage caused by air bombardment. | Aircraft losses for Enemies. | Aircraft losses for Allies. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 24—3—42 (Tuesday). | | | | |
| | **BRITAIN. (By German planes).** | | | |
| NIGHT:— | | | | |
| | A few places on the coastal districts in Southern ENGLAND. | | | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).** | | | |
| | MALTA. | | 5 planes; 6 planes damaged. | |

## ENEMY Air Raids over ALLIED Territories—*cont.*

| Date. | Targets. | Damage caused by air bombardment. | Aircraft losses for Enemies. | Aircraft losses for Allies. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **FAR EAST—BURMA. (By Jap planes).** | | | |
| | A landing ground near the coast. | | | |
| | **NEW GUINEA (By Jap planes).** | | | |
| | Port MORESBY. | | | |
| 25—3—42 (Wednesday). | | | | |
| | **BRITAIN. (By German planes).** | | | |
| NIGHT:— | | | | |
| | Coastal districts of South-east and South ENGLAND. | | | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).** | | | |
| | MALTA. | | 16 planes. | |
| | **FAR EAST—BURMA. (By Jap planes).** | | | |
| | Allied air fields in Central BURMA | | | |
| | **NEW GUINEA. (By Jap planes).** | | | |
| | Port MORESBY. | | | |
| 26—3—42 (Thursday). | | | | |
| | **BRITAIN. (By German planes).** | | | |
| NIGHT:— | | | | |
| | A few places in North-east ENGLAND; | Slight damage. | | |
| | Two points in South-east SCOTLAND. | No damage | 1 plane. | |
| | **MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes).** | | | |
| | MALTA. | | 5 planes. | |
| | **FAR EAST—BURMA. (By Jap planes).** | | | |
| | TOUNGOO. | | | |
| | **FAR EAST—PHILIPPINES (By Jap planes).** | | | |
| | CORREGIDOR Island. | | 4 planes. | |
| 27—3—42 (Friday). | | | | |
| | **BRITAIN. (By German planes).** | | | |
| NIGHT:— | | | | |
| | Coastal towns in North-east ENGLAND; Coast of East ANGLIA. | No damage or casualties. | | |

## ENEMY Air Raids over Allied Territories—*cont.*

| Date. | Targets. | Damage caused by air bombardment. | Aircraft losses for Enemies | Allies |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 27—3—42. (Friday)—cont. | | | | |
| | MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes). | | | |
| | MALTA. | | | |
| | RUSSIA. (By German planes). | | | |
| | Vicinity of MOSCOW. | | 2 planes. | |
| | FAR EAST—BURMA (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | A town on the IRRAWADDY. | | | |
| | NEW GUINEA. (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | Port MORESBY. | | 1 plane. | |
| 28—3—42 (Saturday). | | | | |
| | BRITAIN. (By German planes). | | | |
| | No information available. | | | |
| | MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes). | | | |
| | MALTA. | | | |
| | FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | Port MORESBY. | | 1 plane. | |
| | AUSTRALIA. (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | Port DARWIN. | | | |
| 29—3—42 (Sunday). | | | | |
| | BRITAIN. (By German planes). | | | |
| | No information available. | | | |
| | MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes). | | | |
| | MALTA. | | | |
| | FAR EAST—NEW GUINEA. (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | Port MORESBY. | | | |
| 30—3—42 (Monday). | | | | |
| | BRITAIN. (By German planes). | | | |
| | NIGHT :— South-east coast of ENGLAND (Slight air activity only). | | | |
| | MEDITERRANEAN. (By German planes). | | | |
| | MALTA. | | | |
| | FAR EAST—AUSTRALIA. (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | Port DARWIN. | | | |
| | FAR EAST—BURMA. (By Jap planes). | | | |
| | TOUNGOO. | | | |

# SIDE LIGHTS.

**SPIRITUAL VALUES.** It does one good to listen occasionally to Mr. Churchill, especially when temporary reverses have a depressing tendency. His words—not merely a sedative–have a chastening influence, and brace individuals and nations to action. His speech

on Thursday last, though meant primarily for his party and his nation have an appeal to the world—an appeal chiefly to the spiritual basis of all human endeavours. After enumerating the set-backs, in his usual frank manner, and referring 'to the almost unbroken series of military misfortunes', GREECE, CRETE, HONGKONG, SINGAPORE, RANGOON, and JAVA he quickly added, in a spirit of quiet confidence: Last year I warned you that you could not expect to have successes unchequered by reverses: so now, in 1942 we need not expect to have reverses unrelieved by successes. For, compared with 1941, 1942 is a more hopeful year. GREAT BRITAIN which stood friendless in 1940 is now allied with 30 Nations—the most powerful combination of Nations that history has known, vowed to put down international gangsterdom, vowed to united action, and to the pooling of all the world's resources. Mr. Churchill went on:—

We cannot possibly lose the war, 'except through our own fault', 'our own conduct and character'.

'We must confront our perils and trials with national unity which cannot be broken and national force that is inexhaustible. We must confront them with a resilience and ingenuity which are fearless and above all, with that inflexible will power to endure and meet and brave'.

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**THE SPIRIT OF MALTA.** What Mr. Churchill spoke in general terms applies to MALTA. The spirit of MALTA—the most blitzed place in the world to-day is one of complete confidence and adamantine determination. In words that will outlast the German fury and frenzy Sir. William Dobbie, MALTA's Governor proclamied on Monday:—

'We have been sorely tried but are not crushed, not one whit the less fit to face whatever still lies in front of us—rather the reverse.

'We have been through fire and find we can take it, as we all along have known we could.

'These misfortunes have not weakend our grim determination to see this thing through. Whatever the cost, we shall persevere until by God's help we have won through.

'MALTA has suffered much and has been called upon to endure much, for the ordeal has been going on for a long time.

'But, in the interests of MALTA itself, our Empire, and of the most righteous cause for which we are fighting I call upon MALTA to endure still further and to continue to show the same courage which has won the admiration of the word'.

—Brave words,—not only spoken, but acted upon—This is the spirit of MALTA—the Churchillian Spirit.

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**1942** may well prove a critical year, the year of destiny and RUSSIA the crucial battle-field. The Russian snows are melting and spring is at hand. Lord Beaverbrook told us on Monday, 'In RUSSIA will be fought not only the Battle of RUSSIA but that of the world. In RUSSIA, at this moment, the hopes of humanity in BRITAIN, CANADA, AMERICA, and other countries are centred in the fight that Joseph Stalin and his people are putting up against Hitler's 'Lords'. General Smuts than whom we have no greater soldier-statesman broadcast on Sunday, 'If GERMANY fails to eliminate RUSSIA from the war this summer she will be faced with final ruin'. M. Maisky—Soviet Ambassador in LONDON stated on Saturday, 'The enemy stakes every thing on 1942. The task before the Allies is clear. They must also stake all on 1942. They must make a supreme effort in the spring and summer of this year in order to beat the enemy. The decisive place is the Front of the Soviet Union'.

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**FOUR FUNDAMENTALS** according to M. Maiskey govern the situation:—

*First.*—'Simple arithmetical preponderance', either in population, territory, natural wealth and industrial resources does not count. For instance, GERMANY, in spite of her bloated size due to countries occupied by treachery and butchery is weak in the core owing to the enslavement of countries and forced labour.

*Second.*--What would tell is rather 'a decisive preponderance over the enemy at a decisive moment and in a decisive place', such as is available in RUSSIA now. Now is the decisive moment, and RUSSIA is just the place where a preponderance of strength already exists and could be further increased by massing the world's reinforcements from all quarters of the globe. Here the initiative that RUSSIA wrenched from Hitler in November should increase to the excresendo of a gigantic offensive driving the Hun back to the gates of BERLIN.

*Third.*—What counts in this 'War of Engines' is 'Top-Speed', 'mobilised' resources and not 'potential' resources.

*Fourth.*—'Don't wait till the last button is sewn to the uniforn of the last soldier'. Time is impartial. It is not true that time will help the Allied Cause only. Time which enables the Allies to build up their weapons also gives the enemy an equal opportunity. For instance, a winter's respite has enabled Hitler to gather some strength. The Allies have already the essential implements, troops, tanks, aircraft and arms in quantity. Do not

give any more opportunity to the enemy to recuperate—change your plans, if need be, quickly, adopt yourself to new circumstances—strike now—strike the foe in the Russian soil—strike hard and beat the enemy hollow.

This is M. Maisky's slogan.

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**AID TO RUSSIA.** Alive to the importance of the Russian front. President Roosevelt has ordered 'absolute priority' to RUSSIA in the matter of shipping and materials. Mr. Eden, speaking at Merthyr Tydvil on Saturday revealed that the Persian routes had been completed in advance of schedule, and that the British supplies carried over them now were twice the quantity for November.

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**AMERICAN PRODUCTION** at the moment borders on the marvellous. The U. S. shipyards are working day and night to keep to the schedule of 8,000,000 tons a year. In producing destroyers the navy is ahead of schedule. Admiral Land, Chairman of the Maritime Commission, has stated that the U. S. has 'the world licked now' in the matter of the construction of cargo ships and tankers. But the greatest marvel is the transformation of all U. S. plants—General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, Studebaker, Buick, Nash, Hudson, Willis and Overland—to war work. Here is the testimony of Mr. Ivan Peterman reported in the *Philadelphia Inquirer* on March 4:—

'As this tour of American war industries progresses, your reporter feels an overwhelming desire for company. **It would do me good to take Hitler by the forelock and Benito by the hand. It would do them good—including Tojo—to see them as soon as possible.** It would be very interesting to watch Adolf's putty face as he went through the gun plant making anti-aircraft weapons the last word in such defence. Well! We are not turning out those playthings by hand. We are not confined to one plant or to one city either. Machine after machine inexorably but precisely boring, chambering, heat-treating, tempering, rifling, balancing and finally checking to the one-thousandth inch over every part—that is gun-smithing on a scale that even the traditional gunmen of Naziland must recognise. But these plants are only a start. I would next conduct my conquering guests to the machine-gun factories in these parts. Yes! I said factories—plural. The country is dotted with them—employing many thousands of men on over $ 375,000,000 worth of war orders—where they could take their choice between half a dozen plane wings, a hundred or so other airplane parts including 97 different air ducts alone stamped out in such profusion that they remind me of a tidal wave. **It might also confuse them to know that Ford, Buick and several other super-huge production lines are**

**turning out famed plane motors. The same factory has machine-guns and tanks; they start down there as cold metal, they come out here spouting power of death and destruction. The Chrysler Corporation is almost doubling employment on war contracts; General Motors is increasing by 60 per cent; Ford 100 per cent.**

And the production programme is still far from completion. The U. S. House of Representatives has passed its sixth War Emergency Bill of 18,302,187,148 dollars for the construction of 31,070 more planes, and President Roosevelt has assumed special powers to commandeer all machinery and manufacturers, throughout the country.

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**BRITISH PRODUCTION** is no less stupendous. It has already exceeded the 40 per cent increase scheduled in September last. 40 ordnance factories are now working in full swing employing 300,000 workmen. Mr. Ralph Asheton, speaking on behalf of the Government announced on Wednesday last that 'the output which has already risen to a very high level continued to rise'.

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**GERMAN PREPARATIONS** for the forthcoming offensive do not appear to be satisfactory. It is reported that in answer to the High Command's demands for an additional 3,000,000 men as an absolute minimum Hitler's agents, going round, hat in hand, to BULGARIA, HUNGARY and RUMANIA have not succeeded beyond getting a reluctant promise for half the number. Hitler's own men are by no means over-enthusiastic. His 81st division has now earned unenvied notoriety being nicknamed the 'Reluctant 81st', since after having had an easy time since the seizure of France and having been fattened and pampered for two years, it refused to go to STARAYA RUSSA to relieve the imprisoned garrison and consequently a hundred men had to be shot at the barracks of MONTAVALERIEN for discipline.

For the first time Hitler's armaments production has gone into reverse owing to want of efficient labour in spite of all the combing all over GERMANY. Food and war materials have proved insufficient. Dr. Goebbels, writing in his paper *Das Reich* laments that 'soon it would not be worth while to pander to the belly and risk the skin' and has added that 'the punishment for hoarding is death.'

German ability for a renewed offensive has also been questioned in competent quarters. Hitler has been expelled from some of the Russian bases which he intended to use for his spring offensive. He has lost at least a third of his reserves prematurely in his attempt to stem the Russian winter attacks. He has never had any pause or rest during the winter in which he hoped to recuperate. It looks as if though a mad all-out offensive be attempted it may not after all be much more than a face saving affair.

**THE JAPANESE PUZZLE.** INDIA or AUSTRALIA, SIBERIA or MADAGASCAR which will be Japan's objective while she is still able to run amuck is still the outstanding puzzle of the hour. The ANDAMANS have been occupied and CEYLON has had her first air raid alert, but the present Japanese advances are being directed on upper BURMA, where LASHIO, the gateway to CHINA and BURMA's rich oil-fields are guarded respectively by Chinese and Imperial forces.

In AUSTRALIA the Japanese attempt towards MORESBY continues to be arrested by Australian resistance. A Pacific Council has been set up; Australian Imperial Troops have returned to defend Australia and have been augmented by the American Army under the supreme command of MacArthur, the hero of the PHILIPPINES. AUSTRALIA's climate and terrain are against the invader; there are no jungles for cunning penetration and no fifth columnists to betray the country. Here JAPAN will find waterless regions and foodless tracts. AUSTRALIA will by no means prove a 'soft spot'.

If JAPAN attacked INDIA and AUSTRALIA simultaneously she would have the disadvantage of having to defend a sea length of 2,000 miles with her naval power already reduced by a fifth of its original strength and the combined navies of AMERICA and BRITAIN at her throat. On the other hand if she attacked one at a time, while she attacked at one end she would be attacked at the other.

Meanwhile, other fronts are newly emerging–CHINA'S attitude is becoming increasingly aggressive: KOREA is restless. RUSSIA is another possible foe. Goering's news paper *Essener National Zeitung* writing on March 27 refers to an unnamed Manchurian high official from TOKYO as saying, 'The red shadow of the Soviet Uuion arises on our frontiers'. With the arrival of spring American attacks on JAPAN from the ALEUTIAN ISLANDS in the North Pacific are envisaged. Recent ministerial speeches indicate that SOUTH AFRICA is also preparing against a possible attack, renewing her food position and equipping her railways, harbours and airways. General Smuts envisages a Japanese westward drive, synchronising with a German eastward drive. JAPAN's initial luck is no guarantee of her final success, but while the hydrophobia lasts there is no knowing whom and where she will bite.

Across AFRICA, on its Atlantic coast, lie DAKAR and CASABLANCA and across the Atlantic, lies MARTINIQUE on the route of the vital supplies from AMERICA; beyond it again lie the American ports visited in stealth by hostile submarines. So the conflagration travels round the globe.

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**JAPAN'S 'PEACE' OFFER.** Reports are current of an imminent peace offer by JAPAN to CHINA inviting her to join the 'Co-Prosperity' sphere and a Customs Union, after abandoning her alliance with

the United Nations. In return, occupied Chinese territory would be evacuated except 'certain ports', and a 'free zone' would be given in RANGOON in compensation. NANKING would be federated with Free-CHINA; prisoners would be set free and no indemnity would be claimed. CHINA, of course can easily see through these 'gracious' offers. JAPAN is never more dangerous than when she brings free gifts, Co-Prosperity, as all the world knows now means political and economic slavery. A Customs Union means a ban on foreign trade. The 'Free Zone' at RANGOON dominated by the Japanese is a device to reduce Chinese access to the outside world to one gate, and to control that also. The federation with NANKING is intended to introduce an element of discord in CHINA's homogeneous polity and administration.

**'THE THREE CARDINAL PRINCIPLES'** of Japanese Co-Prosperity for the newly occupied MALAYA territory were specified by the Japanese on March 16—'self-support for the Army, stabilisation of peace and order and acquisition of natural resources for national defence'. Translated into action they mean, Japanese forces will live on the occupied country, 'peace and order' will be enforced through rape, and slaughter, such as Hong Kong has known, and 'acquisition of natural resources', will be sought through plunder, pure and simple. It is significant that the 'three cardinal principles' do not include things like 'self-rule' which JAPAN so lavishly promised MALAYA before she attacked her.

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**JAPANESE CO-PROSPERITY IN OTHER AREAS.** 1. A committee of eight Japanese industrialists will be in change of the exploitation of bauxite, tin, and nickel in the NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES. A special society has been formed to supervise the sending of 100,000 Japanese families to SUMATRA (Vichy Radio quoting a SINGAPORE message—March 4).

2. IRON deposits in the Philippines, with the coal resources of BORNEO will provide employment for large numbers of JAPANESE (TOKYO Radio, March 4).

3. During the next few days 45,000 tons of rice and 37,000 tons of sugar are to be transported to JAPAN from the South (Rome Radio, Feb. 11).

4. Workers in the Siamese rubber plantations are being employed by the Japanese at half their former wages.

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**APPRECIATION.** The War Information Bureau is thankful to the Finance Member for his kindly reference to the work of the Bureau in his budget speech in the Pudukkottai Legislative Council

on March 23. "Thanks to the efforts of the War Information Bureau", he said, "composed of energetic and enthusiastic propagandists, PUDUKKOTTAI has already earned a reputation in the outside world for the dissemination of correct war news. It has opened six branches in important centres in the State during the fasli and it is proposed to open four more branches shortly. The appointment of Captain G. T. B. Harvey, who was the father of the Bureau, as Director of War Publicity, Madras Province, is a recognition of the sterling work of the War Information Bureau. I must take this opportunity to place on record our heartfelt thanks for the good work he has done."

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# UNCAGED BEASTS OF GERMANY AND JAPAN.
# KID-GLOVE METHODS NO REMEDY.

*by*

*Walter Tschuppik.*

Long before Mr. Eden told the House of Commons of the abominations committed by Japanese soldiery against British officers and other ranks and civilians in Hong Kong, news had reached London which suggested that worse was to follow. Subsequent report, the truth of which is established beyond doubt, has shocked the world.

What is behind those atrocious deeds? Is it an outbreak of savage fury or does it conceal some devilish design?

For many years the Japanese have been the Germans' outpost pupils. Secret kinship has always attracted them to Prussian militarism, totalitarian warfare and German ideas which combine the glorification of force with a Machiavellian policy.

## SUB-CONSCIOUS BARBARISM?

**Some psychologists describe Hitlerism as the neurosis of a nation which violently rejected civilisation and seeks to release a deeply concealed yearning for barbarism.** C. G. Jung, the famous Swiss psychologist, and with him many others who have studied mass psychosis believe that Christianity was imposed upon the ancient Teutons, and especially North Germans, with such force that an inner resistance has survived right up to this day, a resistance which brings to the surface sub-conscious recollections of ancient heathen deities and cults and of the herd life among the primeval forests. Results under favourable circumstances may be an outbreak of savage frenzy.

## JAPANESE VENEER THINNER.

The Japanese resemble the Germans in this respect; only, with them the layer of civilisation which covers the ancient savagery beneath is thinner and

more recent. The cult of hara-kiri, which is practised even in time of peace, has always been a horrible enigma to the civilised world—a doorway, as it were, opening into primeval gloom.

It is the tragedy of the Japanese that they came into contact in the 19th century with the very dubious blessing of the Western world and the seeds of that barbarism which have blossomed forth in Hitlerism. Japanese visitors to Europe, and especially Germany, studied, not in the school of humanity but in a colder and more brutal faculty.

## THE SOURCE THAT MATTERS.

**The terrible story of Hong Kong shows on a greatly magnified scale what humanity must expect from Hitlerism if it does not learn the real sources from which it springs.** The Japanese are savages who have studied everything—mathematics and microscope physics, medicine, history, modern socialism, political economy and art.

**Yet they remain beasts in black coat and trousers.**

They have learnt everything of which the modern-day German is so proud; they have imbibed the secrets of German laboratories, German philosophy, German commercial tricks and dodges, and all details of totalitarian warfare. Here indeed they seem even to have excelled their teachers.

## ALL EXCEPT HUMANITY.

But what they could never learn in Germany was humanity.

**The crime of Hong Kong reflects the face of Hitler and everything which brought Hitler to power in Germany. The key to the cage from which the Japanese beasts of prey have escaped is in Germany's pocket.**

A few weeks ago the American magazine *Life* published authentic photographs of atrocities committed by the Japanese. These showed Japanese soldiers bayoneting Chinese prisoners bound naked to stakes, like their British allies in Hong Kong.

It is apparent that such atrocities are nothing unusual with the Japanese and are approved by their military superiors. We must even assume that there is a method in it all, that it is a psychological factor in a total war. The Japanese obviously desire by this means to spread alarm and panic and paralyse their enemy's resistance.

## ANOTHER LEAF FROM NAZI BOOK.

That, too, is originally a German invention; it is the same terrorism with which Hitler first conquered Germany and has since tried to intimidate the world.

*Life* accompanied its illustrations with the following remarkable commentary here quoted in extract:

"**The army of Japan is a cruel and a ruthless army. They burn prisoners alive; rape and disembowel captive women; pillage and slaughter as though atrocity were the most natural thing in the world.** Their cruelties do not come singly but in hundreds of thousands. Yet the story of the Japanese army told in Japan is one of pride and high-pitched righteousness. These photographs are taken from a picture book published for Japanese circulation only, a collection of photos of the 'China Incident'. The foreword of the book tells the Japanese that their soldiers are by far the best and noblest in the world. Over and over again it says, 'We are right; the enemy is wrong'.

"The Japanese army encourages full reporting of its deeds and permits soldiers to write home even about hardships. The Japanese ideal is a cunning and long-suffering hero resorting to any trick to survive and kill his enemies first. He tends even to boast of his atrocities."

## LOCK THEM UP.

Mankind must be prepared for terrible happenings before it succeeds in driving the German and Japanese gorillas back into their cage. And when they are once back, the key of the cage must remain in safe keeping. Let no one believe that the monster can be humanised by methods of pure reasoning, by a diligent application of erudition or science. **Spectacles, walking-sticks, kid-gloves and Bushido are no substitutes for the soul of man.** Our hopes of a new and better world will only be fulfilled if they go side by side with a thorough education in human decency. It is a great mistake to believe, as many reformers do, that the beast in man—in the German and Japanese man can be tamed by social and economic theories alone. That is the lesson of Hong Kong.

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# JAPAN'S *MEIN KAMPF*.
# SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TANAKA MEMOIR.
# CHINA, FIRST STEP TO WORLD DOMINATION.
# CASTE AND MILITARISM IN NIPPON.

by

***Peter Stevens.*** *In the* ***Free World*** *(New York).*

## THE TANAKA MEMORIAL.

Hitler's *Mein Kampf* aims at the domination of the world, beginning with the conquest of the European continent.

Japan's *Mein Kampf*, the Tanaka Memoir, aspires as high and is even more complete in its plans. It was presented to the Mikado by the late General Tanaka in July, 1927, when he was Prime Minister. It was the result of a conference between the highest civil and military officials of Japan, called for the purpose of establishing an immediate plan for the colonisation of the Far East.

## AIM—THE CONQUEST OF THE WORLD.

In the chapter on "General Considerations" it states:

> "In the future, if we want to control China, we must first defeat the United States of America as we have smashed Russia in the past. But in order to conquer China, we must first conquer Manchuria and Mongolia. **In order to conquer the entire world the conquest of China is a pre-requisite. If we conquer China, the other countries of Asia and those of the South Sea Islands will be intimidated and then will surrender to us.........Being in possession of China's resources we can proceed to the conquest of the South Sea Islands, India, Asia Minor, Central Asia, and even Europe.**"

In the chapter on "Railroads and the Development of Our New Continent" it states:

> "In order to execute the programme of our national expansion, a second war with Russia in North Manchuria will be a necessary step. If that rock is not destroyed our ship of State cannot go forward without peril.........The Yamato race must embark on a conquest of the world.........Our first step was the conquest of Formosa (1895), the second, the annexation of Korea (1910).........The third step was the conquest of Manchuria and Mongolia (1931–1932) and next comes China proper, now in process of being taken. When all will be done the rest of Asia including the South Sea Islands will kneel before us. It is the crime of your Majesty's humble servants that this last step is not yet taken.........As we have not enough resources at our disposal, we should be vanquished in moving too soon, especially if Britain and the United States united in order to counter our action. In order to preserve our race and to give a warning to China and the rest of the world we have to fight America now or later."

The existence of the Tanaka Memoir was denied by the Japanese when the text was published by the World Press after the Manchurian incident in 1931. But it has been translated and distributed in China since 1929 without denial by Japan. Its existence was later proved to the world by Mr. T. C. Wang, Chinese authority on Japanese affairs, in a booklet called "Le Peril Jaune," published by the International Peace Campaign in Geneva in 1938.

## TANAKA PLAN IN ACTION.

Since 1937 Japan has carried out in a methodical way the plan for the conquest of Asia. In July, 1937, North China was invaded; from 1937 to 1941 eleven provinces of China proper were occupied by the Japanese armies. Two puppet régimes under the control of Japan were established in Peiping and Nanking. French Indo-China was completely occupied by Japan in 1941. If the British, American, and Dutch possessions in the Far East, Australia, New Zealand, and Siberia are not yet invaded by Japan, it is only due to the lack of time and opportunity. No considerations except a superior military force can prevent Japan from carrying her plans to completion.

## THE SINO-JAPANESE WAR.

Ever since the Sino-Japanese conflict the theory of Japan's *Mein Kampf* has been added to by Japanese statesmen. General Araki, the once powerful chief of Japan's militaristic clan, wrote in August, 1932, in the Kaikossa magazine:

> "**Our country intends to enforce her national ideal through the seven seas of the globe.** We must do it by war if necessary. We are the descendants of God and should rule the world. But in order to conquer the world we must first get the raw materials of China."
>
> (Reprinted in the *Petit Parisien*, November 23, 1932).

## LEBENSRAUM.

In order to justify their occupation of Manchuria and Mongolia the Japanese proclaimed regions of China to be their "vital space" as Hitler's Germany proclaimed the territory of her neighbours to be her *lebensraum.* The Premier, Prince Konoye, who had launched the present Sino-Japanese war in 1937, announced a plan for the creation of a new order in East Asia under Japanese leadership. Having started the war in Europe, Hitler announced his creation of a new order in Europe with Fascist Italy. In 1938 Japan's new order area included officially only Japan, China, and Manchukuo.

## 'CO-PROSPERITY'

Being encouraged by Germany's success in her aggression in Europe, Japan's new order area was transformed into "A Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" and was extended to the Philippine Islands, Singapore, Indo-China, the Dutch Indies and India. Nazi Germany's new order area also was extended, actually to the whole European continent and theoretically to Great Britain, Africa, and South America.

According to Article II of the Axis Triple Alliance Pact, Japan is to recognise and respect the leadership of Germany and Italy in establishing a new order in Europe. Germany and Italy are to recognise and respect the leadership of Japan in establishing a new order in Greater East Asia.

## JAPANESE STRATEGY.

To complete Japan's *Mein Kampf*, Finance Minister Okinori Kaiya of the present Cabinet declared openly on November 10, 1941, that Japan intends to "force Britain and the United States to retire from East Asia." Japan's continental policy aims at the conquest of Asia by the army and the maritime policy aims at the conquest of the South Sea Islands by the navy.

When the American and British fleets were all powerful and China or Russia relatively weak, the continental policy was put in trial. When France was defeated by Germany, Japan occupied Indo-China. Now, while the British and American fleets are busy in the Atlantic, Japan is attempting to carry out the maritime and continental policies at the same time.

## JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY.

Premier Hideki Tojo, in a detailed declaration before the Diet on November 17, reaffirmed Japan's "immutable principle of creating a New Order in East Asia." He accused the United States, Great Britain, and the Dutch Indies of obstructing Japan's policy by taking military and economic measures against her, and declared that they "should refrain from obstructing our successful conclusion of the China affair; should refrain from presenting a direct military menace to our Empire; should avoid such measures of hostility as an economic blockade and restore normal economic relations with Japan." And Japan will "exert her utmost efforts to prevent the extension of the European war and the spread of the disturbance in East Asia."

This declaration of foreign policy by the new Japanese Cabinet merely reaffirmed that Japan is compelled to go forward with her "*Mein Kampf*" for the conquest of Asia. **It is a manifestation of weakness, for if the American, British and Dutch economic blockade and military preparedness were not mortal to Japan, she would not insist on their suppression. Chinese resistance, and the British, American and Dutch economic and military measures of defence are the only language that the Japanese militarists can understand.**

## MYSTICISM.

**The historical background of Japan's *Mein Kampf* lies in the mystical concept that the "Japanese Empire is founded upon the six parts of the globe" and the "Japanese people are descendants ot the Sun Goddess." This is the essence of the Japanese State religion, Shintoism.**

**In political structure Japan is the most backward country in the world to-day, comparable to the Russia of before the revolution.** A few years ago Professor Shiome of the Imperial University of Tokyo published an article stating that the Mikado was the head of the Japanese State like other sovereigns in

European countries. The ruling class of Japan and the press were indignant and asked for the punishment of the Japanese Professor, who was finally dismissed for having been guilty of *lese-majeste*.

Most of the Japanese people sincerely share the belief that the Mikado is a God in human form and proprietor of the whole Japanese Empire. They obey blindly their Mikado and the officials who represent him. They are proud of unreasoning and unreasonable obedience to their master even when it drives them to inhumane acts, some of which are glorified in Japanese classics. Benefiting by it, the ruling class wants to maintain the theory of the "divine body" of the Mikado.

## JAPAN—MEDIEVAL, PRIMITIVE, IMITATIVE.

**In spite of the rapid material modernisation of Japan, her people as a whole are still imbued with a medieval spirit. Their culture is still primitive, with little in it created by themselvss. Their philosophy, literature, and art are of Chinese origin, while their science comes from the west.** During the period of modernisation, the second half of the nineteenth century, every effort was concentrated on industrialisation, on material progress. They had no time to advance in cultural fields.

## CASTE.

The national spirit is due in part to economic and social conditions. No civilised nation is more strongly divided into social castes than the Japanese.

## THE POOR.

The ruling class keeps the farmers and workers in a perpetual state of misery. Eighty per cent. of Japanese wealth is concentrated in the hands of about ten families, the most famous being the Mitsui and Mitsubishi. The farmers, workers, and merchants of Japan are directly or indirectly their serfs.

Other clans of the Japanese ruling class are the military aristocracy and the bureaucracy which are fused more or less with the plutocracy by marriage.

## THE MILITARY GROUP.

The young military group, coming from the poor, is ignorant of events in, the world outside and believes that the only solution to the misery of their kindred is foreign expansion. Assassinations of members of the plutocracy, military aristocracy, and bureaucracy by the young military element have been frequent in recent years because victory is slow in coming.

## 'ON THE BACK OF THE TIGER'

In spite of the wretched poverty of the peasantry and of the working class the immense wealth of the ruling class has never been spent for the improve-

ment of their condition. In keeping the Japanese masses poor and ignorant, the plutocracy can produce with low wages and spend for foreign expansion.

**If the million and a half soldiers in China were allowed to return to Japan disillusioned and without the definite realisation of their "Great East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere," they would immediately revolt and destroy the ruling classes—"the man on the back of a tiger."** He is obliged to continue his perilous journey until he falls and is devoured.

### THE JAPANESE MENACE.

In spite of the respectable Japanese qualities of patriotism, discipline, endurance, tenacity, cleanliness, the spirit of sacrifice, the survival of the medieval combined with the military and with modern science makes them one of the most dangerous nations of the world to-day. To be just, we must recognise that human nature is everywhere the same.

If the opportunity were given to the Japanese to establish a more rational political, economic, and social structure, they could become a nation of contributors to the progress of civilisation. **But this aspiration can be realized only after a social revolution which can occur only with Japan's defeat.**

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## FACTS ABOUT R. A. F. SPRING OFFENSIVE.

Here is an Air Ministry quiz:—

Question: Have we started the great spring air offensive against the Germans? Answer: Yes. It is definitely on, and now only weather can hold it up.

Have the Germans removed their industry from the Ruhr? No. There have been some expansions of industries in the west as well as in the east, and there will remain vital targets in the west of Germany as long as war lasts.

**Is strategic night bombing still effective? Certainly. The recent bombing of Essen was certainly heavier than the attacks on Coventry, which added a new word to the dictionaries.**

Will the R. A. F. continue to concentrate on one target, as they have recently, or will they spread their attacks? We shall use both methods. There are advantages both in concentrating on one target and in spreading the raids, which surprise the enemy and cause chaos and dislocation over a wide industrial area.

### MAIN POLICY UNCHANGED.

Has our bombing policy been modified in the past few months? The broad lines of our policy are unchanged **sustained attacks mounting in weight.** But we have learned from experience and we are adapting ourselves to the changes in the German dispositions and the strategical situation.

Is there any evidence, other than photographic, of the damage done to Germany by our raids? A mass of evidence. Much of it comes in extremely late.

Shall we continue to bomb French targets? Yes. But we would prefer to bomb German rather than French factories, and if conditions were equally propitious for attacking targets in Germany and France, we would go for Germany every time.

Shall we warn the French of our raids by dropping pamphlets beforehand? We are not going to warn any particular town of an attack planned the next day. That would give the Germans time to concentrate flak and night fighters to meet us. We have given the French warnings to keep out of factories working for Germany.

What is the position of the Germans bombing England? The Germans have ample employment for a large force of bombers on the Eastern Front. They do not think it worth while to attempt to bomb England night after night. They had very heavy losses when they last came inland—far heavier than they have inflicted on us. But the Germans seem to think it worth while to make tip-and-run raids on objectives on British coasts, which are hard to intercept. They may increase. They may also decide to try a crushing attack on one of the inland towns. Many of them might get through, but it would be made costly.

## POSITION IN MIDDLE EAST.

Have we enough aircraft in Northern Africa to cope with the growing Axis peril in the Mediterranean? **We still have air supremacy in the Middle East and we are reinforcing our stations there.**

Will Russia continue to get war planes from us now that American production can supply them? **We shall go on fulfilling our pledges which Lord Beaverbrook gave.** They will only be stepped up or cut down by agreement with the Russians.

**What is the official view of the Japanese air force? It is formidably large But they have not got the industrial capacity to maintain as large a frontline strength as they have at the moment.**

**Are their planes good? Our Hurricanes, Tomahawks and Kittihawks have proved more than a match for them when fighting on terms. The Japanese have not produced any surprise aircraft.**

Will long-range fighters be used to escort bombers on daylight raids on Germany? We are developing long-range fighters, but they will never be a match for our short-range fighters. For that reason they will not be sent to nests where short-range fighters can give battle.

# HITLER'S STARTING LINE FOR OFFENSIVE.
# RUSSIANS KEEP UP PRESSURE.
# AUSTRALIA AS ALLIES' STARTING LINE.
# PROBLEM BEFORE JAPANESE.

by

(*Lieut-Gen. Sir Douglas Brownrigg*).

In order to turn a retreat into advance there has to be some period of immobility. One side advances all along the line, then gradually exhausts itself by its efforts; there follows a period of temporary stagnation (generally referred to as a period of " consolidation "); then comes the counter-offensive and the battle commences to move the other way; or possibly there is no reversing of fortune and the original attack takes on fresh momentum.

The point is that the retreating force must gain a breathing space in order to stage a "come-back". It must gain a temporary pause on some natural feature in order to reverse the direction of the fight.

## WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN RUSSIA.

That is what has occurred in Russia. It is, of course, impossible to generalise about a battle which has raged on a front of 2,000 miles, because fortune has swayed unevenly backwards and forwards at different points along the long line. But the impetus of the German advance evaporated as the armies of the Reich crossed miles of devastated countryside until they found themselves confronted by fresh troops on strongly prepared positions with other fresh troops behind and supplies of new war material from the arsenals of Britain and America. At this time the German lines of communication were stretched to their uttermost.

All these causes combined to give the Russians that pause which enabled them to turn at bay and then riposte with such startling and glorious success. Since then the Russians have advanced and the Germans have sought a period of pause in which to organise a line from which to sally forth once more in the opposite direction. We do not know where Hitler hopes to call a halt in the great retreat. He may not yet have been forced back beyond his chosen starting line. But, wherever it is, it is obviously to Russia's advantage that it shall be as far from Moscow and as close to Berlin as possible. The Russian object is to keep up pressure so that Hitler cannot organise a spring offensive or is at least compelled to choose a starting line far nearer his own borders than he would wish.

A similar process is taking place in the Far East on an even larger scale. The Japanese gained tremendous initial momentum by the secrecy and treachery of their opening moves. First Pearl Harbour and the sinking of two British capital ships, then the rapid capture of all Malaya and, simultaneously, successes on all islands in the South-West Pacific with none but General MacArthur in the Philippines to withstand them.

## CONTROLLED DISPERSION.

Everywhere the Japanese, by well-planned strategy and an almost diabolically cunning plan of controlled dispersion, have been able to produce superiority in numbers and material at each point in turn or at several points at the same time. One success has automatically led to another. There has been no fortuitous scattering of the Japanese forces over the islands of the Pacific, as some accounts would have us believe. There has been a planned dispersion of force, with the result that General Wavell was never given a moment's pause in which to effect a concentration at any point to stay the enemy's advance.

The fight in the Far East can never change its course until the Allies can find somewhere to mass their forces—sea, land and air—for a counter-blow. Australia seems the only place where such concentration can take place, though, with the pace and range of modern war, even Australia is unpleasantly close to the battle front (if battles can still be said to have " fronts " at all).

## WHERE RUSSIA COMES IN.

If this analysis is even approximately correct, the Japanese are now faced with the problem of whether to invade Australia by land and so prevent (or attempt to prevent) such fresh concentration of force against her, or whether to hold what she has until command of the sea is settled in an engagement with the main battle-fleet of the United States. We do not know where the rival battle-fleets now lie. But Japan has to decide whether to risk a large-scale invasion of Australia whilst the United States fleet is still at large and at sea.

Should General Tojo decide that this risk is too great, he may turn covetous eyes on Vladivostock, which stands like a catapult ready to launch destruction on Tokyo.

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# SALIENT FEATURES OF JAPANESE LAND STRATEGY.

# METHODS OF INFILTRATION OF AXIS PARTNERS.

# USE MADE OF JUNGLE TERRAIN.

# WHAT GENERAL MACARTHUR'S RESISTANCE SHOWS.

by

*Major Lewis Hastings* (*In a recent B. B. C. talk*).

The fact is now inescapable that Java has gone the way of Malaya. In three short months the Japanese have reached almost all their primary objectives, and hoisted their flags over some of the richest and most populous lands in all Asia. What are the military reasons for these gigantic successes? Whatever they may be, they are worthy of examination.

It is not enough, I think, just to point to the Allies' so called numerical inferiority and shortage of equipment. Our defeats have been too fast and complete for that explanation to be wholly satisfactory. Of course, one cannot really form a balanced view until much more detailed reports are forthcoming, but there is enough evidence already to throw some light on Japanese methods, and especially on their technique in the land fighting.

## DOMINANT FACTOR.

However much of their success the Japanese may have owed to their tactics on land, the dominant factor in the matter has been their close combination of sea, air and land forces, firmly based upon almost absolute local naval superiority. That is really the core of the business. The whole procession of disastrous events dates from the sea tragedy of the first three days of the campaign.

But about the land tactics of Japanese, we are getting tired of the word "infiltration". It can be very misleading and it is particularly inaccurate when used to suggest that the Japanese military technique in the Pacific corresponds closely to the methods of the German Army. Infiltration by the Germans is essentially the result of shock action by armoured troops—not so with the Japanese.

The more closely their methods in Malaya and elsewhere are examined, the more clearly is it seen that they differ in many ways from the German model. It is customary to talk of the Japanese, as an imitative race. They are, but they have certainly evolved their own pattern in the Pacific.

## ULTIMATE AIM.

Their ultimate aim, of course, is the same as that of the *blitzkrieg*, that is, to bring about a sort of liquefaction of the opposing defence system. But

the Japanese have planned to do this, not by a crushing blow followed by a mass break-through at a particular point, but by the cunning use of cover, and by seeping through the whole front with small, light, self-contained units. Oddly enough, in its avoidance of head on clashes and sapping the enemy's strength in unexpected ways, the whole scheme has a definite resemblance to the Japanese practice of *jiu-jitsu.*

But this will be noted particularly : what was supposed to be the greatest natural obstacle to the Japanese advance in those tropical regions was the jungle, but it is just the jungle that they have mastered and used with skill in their own favour.

Certainly for this they had immense natural advantages which their High Command made use of consciously and cleverly. The Japanese soldier travels light. His bodily needs are few. His problem of supply is much less than an European's. He can live on the land, and he has no scruples whatever about the local population. He can readily disguise himself, from the European point of view, as an inhabitant of those countries he has been invading, and the food and conditions of life over all the area are familiar to him.

## NAZI METHOD.

There is one lesson though that the Japanese have learned from the Germans. They have taken from the German assault group, the idea of first supporting small units with large fire-power complements. These units make great use of easily portable trench mortars, and their bush tactics have often nullified the value of the heavier artillery opposed to them.

In all the invaded countries, of course, Japanese penetration has been enormously facilitated by command of the sea, and the consequent ease with which they could land parties on the flank and in the rear of their opponents. But even without this I believe that the Japanese tactics of attack have been extremely disconcerting.

Modern defensive doctrine abandons the continuous trench line in favour of zones of deep defences. This is the recognised reply to the classic type of mechanised offensive. But against the subtle Japanese, seeping in through bush and plantation in lightly-burdened and fast-moving groups, only a strongly positioned line without intervals would have been of any use. And, of course, neither in the Malay Peninsula nor in Java were the Allied numbers sufficient to establish such a line.

## PLANNED IN ADVANCE.

The magnificent fight put up by General MacArthur in Luzon is, at any rate in part, due to the fact that he had wisely selected in advance a spot of land eminently suitable for defence, and had been able to establish a relatively short line which defied the insinuating tactics practised by the enemy in jungle country.

I think one thing is daylight clear about the Japanese attack in the land campaigns so far. The whole of it has been meticulously planned, probably years ahead, in relation to the condition of this part of Eastern Asia.

Indispensable elements in this planning were such things as the density of the population, the local available food supplies, the topography and the climate and, I think also, a fair assumption concerning the tactics they were likely to meet.

But I believe also that the success they have achieved flatters the military qualities of the Japanese, and may easily give a misleading picture of their value as troops in different circumstances.

Let us not forget what has happened in China. **In that country the very conditions that have favoured the Japanese in Malaya and Java operated in favour of the Chinese. Again, General MacArthur's experience shows that wherever Japanese methods have been frustrated by wise selection of terrain and suitable dispositions, the results were very different.**

## THE REAL LESSON.

All these events have given us a terribly severe and in many ways a well-deserved lesson. **But cunning and fanatical as the Japanese soldier is, it would be absurd to believe that his victories hitherto are due to any real or innate superiority.**

General Gordon Bennett has put the matter in its right proportion. From the information he has brought back and other evidence, the real lesson is plain. **The Japanese will be smashed when we substitute ruthless concentration for war in penny packets and are able to choose our own ground for battle.**

In other words, we have again the ever-returning and indisputable fact that modern weapons are above all the weapons of mass offensive action, and that in modern war the advantage lies with those who attack and so keep in their hands the initiative.

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# AMERICAN PRESS COMMENTS.

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*The New York Times, March 8.*—**For the first time in the Second World War German armament production has gone on the reverse.** Germany's man-power is no longer sufficient to satisfy the sharply increasing demands of army and industry at the same time. The war in Russia has brought about this complete change. Accepting even a minimum estimate of German casualties in Russia, an approximate equivalent of three generations of male youth will have been lost by the spring of 1942. Furthermore today Nazi Germany is forced to maintain an army in the field over a much more

extensive area and against an enemy army that is larger and better equipped than was the Allied army in 1914. The German army is further forced to fight at a far greater distance from Germany, requiring a far larger supply system. In addition Germany needs armies of occupation for the territories in continental Europe that it has conquered.

The picture of the male working population in Germany in 1942, the third year of war, is approximately as follows: Of 20,000,000 in the most productive age group, some 9,000,000 are in the army, to which must be added 1,500,000 in casualties. **In other words since the Russian campaign German production has at its disposal only about half of all Germans in their most productive year.**

*The Christian Science Monitor, March 6.*—The British, in bombing factories around Paris, are returning to destroy from the air what Frenchmen failed to destroy on the ground in June, 1940. The way of those in control of the French war effort in 1940 was in sharp contrast to that of the retreating Russians in 1941 or the hardpressed Dutch colonials in 1942. "Scorched earth"—a term first given currency by the Chinese—became synonymous, in Russia with a grim determination to sacrifice even national achievements such as the great power dam of Dnepropetrovsk, to prevent their use by the enemy. Industrial works costing hundreds of millions have been blown up by the Dutch. No wheel, no lathe, not a single brick was disturbed when the French gave up the Renault, Citroen, Regnier plant near Lyons fell like a ripe plum into the laps of the Nazis, who had it in operation for themselves within three days. It was this Schneider-Creusot steel trust which the former Premier, Daladier, in his trial at Riom accused of having deliberately slowed down production and having spoiled plans to establish an arms plant in North Africa. France's Fascist-minded industrialists and anti-republicans among the militarists were not of the type to sacrifice arms, plants or factories turning out other war materials. The Free France that has to come will hardly trust the making of weapons of war to enemies within.

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# A. R. P. NOTES.

## I

In the present war the enemy has taken to indiscriminate bombing of the civilian population, his object in so doing being to create panic, hamper production, disrupt communications and hinder normal life. Hence this war is a Total War.

The recent experiences in Rangoon and other places show how dreadful air raids can be when suitable precautions are not taken and what disasters

and devastation they can bring. Reason requires that we should become wiser at least after the bitter experiences of others, and learn what to do, should the untoward happen. The war on the Eastern Front has come so near to the doors of India that it will hereafter be a crime to be complacent.

Though the possibilities of an air raid on Pudukkottai are very remote we should not on that account be under the illusion that all must be safe with us. Pudukkottai is within 35 miles of Trichinopoly and 80 miles from Madura, both of which are industrial centres. Forewarned is forearmed. Though the human instinct is for self-preservation, unless we bring ourselves under discipline the unexpected zero hour will find us helpless, with of course a thousand and one ideas in our heads but with none of them a safe guide to self–preservation.

1. *Discourage rumours.*—Wild and alarming rumours are sure to catch the imagination of the credulous and unsophisticated public. Check them and tell the masses that such bazaar rumours are sure to be unfounded and must have emanated from enemy sources.

2. *Avoid panic.*—Control yourself and act like a man of commonsense. Not only should you help yourself, but also be of help to others. Don't try to run, here there and everywhere, to be, after all, nowhere.!

3. *Be prepared.*—Follow the instructions given by A. R. P. authorities. Develop, if you have not got it already, faith in what they say. When they say that during an air raid you should run to the nearest shelter and take cover do so. The best shelter is your house. You should not stand at the door-ways or door-steps or on verandahs or in the open.

4. *Curb your curiosity and inquisitiveness* at such times, since, the few moments wasted at such a time on unnecessary questioning may mean the end of time for the questioner. In Rangoon the percentage of casualties of those who stood in open streets without taking cover was simply staggering, while among those who took cover it was moderate.

5. *Join the Wardens' service,* the Street Fire Fighting Parties, the Rescue Parties.

6. *Sink your differences,* meet on the common ground of A. R. P. organisation and do what lies in your power to protect and safeguard person and property.

7. *Be prepared.* God helps those who help themselves.

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# PROGRAMME OF LECTURES

OF THE

## Pudukkottai State War Information Bureau.

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**1942—**

### LECTURE LXXXIX—(*Batch 1*).

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| April | ... 4, Saturday ... | Town Hall | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| | 5, Sunday ... | Nartamalai | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| | 6, Monday ... | Do. | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| | 7, Tuesday ... | Do. | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| | 8, Wednesday | Perungalur | ... 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Adanakkottai | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| | 9, Thursday ... | Arimalam | ... 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Kilanilaikkottai | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| | 10, Friday ... | Tirumayyam | ... 6.00 p. m. |
| | | Melur | ... 6.30 p. m. |

### LECTURE XC—(*Batch 2*).

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11, Saturday ... | Town Hall | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| 12, Sunday ... | Vayalogam | ... 6.00 p. m. |
| | Kudumiyamalai | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| 13, Monday ... | Lechchumanpatti | ... 6.00 p. m. |
| | Mandaiyur | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| 14, Tuesday ... | Nachandupatti | ... 6.00 p. m. |
| | Virachchilai | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| 15, Wednesday. | Vengalur | ... 6.00 p. m. |
| | Konapattu | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| 16, Thursday ... | Panayappatti | ... 6.00 p. m. |
| | Rangiyam | ... 6.30 p. m. |
| 17, Friday ... | Kodumbalur | ... 6.00 p. m. |
| | Viralimalai | ... 6.30 p. m. |

Sri Brihadamba State Press, Pudukkottai. 1,000—4-4-42.